

# DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

Vol. 28 No. 10

October 15, 1960

Whole No. 337



DIME NOVEL SKETCHES #17

BLUE AND GRAY

A colored cover weekly published by Frank Tousey featuring stories about the Civil War, alternating with stories about Will Prentiss for the south and Jack Clark for the north. Lasted for only 32 issues, Aug. 12, 1904 to March 17, 1905. 32 pages, 8x11.

## Nick Carter Reprints

by J. Edward Leithead

This is not an attempt to make a complete listing of all Nick Carter reprints that went to make up so many issues of *Magnet* and New *Magnet Library* (one of the best and certainly the longest series of detective stories ever published), such as J. P. Guinon's excellent and all-inclusive "Reprints of the Merriwell Stories" in *Dime Novel Roundup* for April 1955. The latter is one of the most careful and well written pieces of dime novel research I've ever seen. I couldn't attempt to duplicate it with Nick Carter novels unless I had a great deal more material and time and the help of the late Harold Holmes, who was a first-class Nick Carter researcher.

When the first 10c *Magnet Library* was issued by Street & Smith on September 1, 1897, its title was "A Klondike Claim," its contents 4 nos. of the New Nick Carter Weekly (or Library, as the new 5c color cover series, started the same year, was called for a few issues), signed "By Nicholas Carter." In the originals, these stories were adventures of Trim Carter (Chick's son), but his name was changed in the book-size library to "Harvey Stokes."

*Magnet* #2 was "The Great Enigma." This one takes a backward jump for its contents to the black-and-white Nick Carter Library #8, "Nick Carter in Philadelphia, or, The Night

Hawks of the Quaker City," and another issue or two that I can't identify. #8 at least was by Fred Dey. In the early Nick Carter Library titles, the nickname "Little Giant" appears pretty often, indicating it was Dey who first thought of it. As every Nick Carter devotee knows he was under average height but as strong as Eugene Sandow. Richard Wormser, who wrote the Nick Carter Magazine stories years afterward, preserved this physical feature of the matchless Nick, but along the way in *Magnet* there were reprints her and there that had not been, originally, Nick Carter tales and showed careless proof-reading in permitting Nick to be called "the tall detective."

*Magnet* #3 was "A Titled Counterfeiter, or, The American Detective in France." Had an 1892 copyright and probably was a New York Weekly serial. The detective hero, Wat Denton, apparently has no connection with Nick Carter until you read *Magnet* #5.

*Magnet* #4 was "Tracked Across the Atlantic," a genuine Nick Carter tale and one of the best by Dey, originally a New York Weekly serial and introducing a diamond smuggler who came to life again—only to die for keeps—in #609 of New Nick Carter Weekly: Livingston Carruthers and Dey was still writing Nick Carters, the best ones, at that later period.

## DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

Vol. 28 No. 10

October 15, 1960

Whole No. 337

Published Monthly at

821 Vermont Street, Lawrence, Kansas

Edited by

Edward T. LeBlanc, 87 School St., Fall River, Mass.

Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Lawrence, Kansas

Price \$2.00 per year

Assistant Editor

Ralph F. Cummings, Fisherville, Mass.

Asst. Ed. Photography—Charles Duprez, 228 Larch Lane, Smithtown, L.I., N.Y.

Ad Rates — 6c per word, \$1.00 per inch, quarter page \$2.25, half page \$3.00 and Full Page \$5.00. — 4 times for the price of three.



iod.

Magnet #5 was "The Crime of a Countess, or, The American Detective and the Russian Nihilist," where, in an introduction by Nick Carter himself, we learn that Wat Denton (of Magnet #3) was a pupil of Nick's. Another New York Weekly serial, copyright 1892.

Magnet #6 was "A Wall Street Haul", actually the second Nick Carter serial by John R. Coryell, first published in the New York Weekly.

Magnet #7 was "The American Marquis, or, A Detective for Vengeance." Reprint of a New York Weekly serial, 1892, the detective is Clinton Hastings, and Nick Carter not in it, although John R. Coryell wrote the story, and the similarity of style to Magnets #3 and #5 suggests he wrote them as well.

Magnet #8 was "An Australian Klondike," again 4 reprints of Trim Carter's adventures from Nick Carter Weekly, but with his name changed to Harvey Stokes.

Magnet #9 was "A Stolen Identity," a reprint of a Nick Carter by Dey, Nick Carter Library #9, "A Man With Four Identities" and one or two others from the same library, same author.

Magnet #10 was "The Old Detective's Pupil," the first Nick Carter and by John R. Coryell, which was serialized in the New York Weekly commencing September 18, 1886.

Magnet #11 was "Fighting Against Millions" by Coryell, his third Nick Carter and reprinted from New York Weekly.

Jumping ahead to Magnet #17, we have three of the most important Nick Carters ever written, authored by Fred Dey, because they introduce that master criminal, Dr. Jack Quartz. Title of the Magnet book was "The Piano Box Mystery"; it contained these reprints from Nick Carter Library, #13, "3,000 Miles by Freight," #14, "The Thirteen's Oath of Vengeance" and #15, "The Fate of Dr. Quartz."

Other tales of Dr. Quartz's pupils followed almost immediately in Nick

Carter Library, and one would expect S. & S. to reprint these follow-up tales in Magnet reasonably soon after the first Quartz yarns were reprinted in that library. But what do the publishers do? They apparently forgot about #17, 18, 19, 20 of the Library (I don't know that they were ever reprinted in Magnet, though they were in New Nick Carter Weekly) and presently we're reading about Patsy Murphy chasing counterfeiters and Nihilists in Magnet #39 and 43. One lone Quartz story, Nick Carter Library #126, "The Heir of Dr. Quartz," finally found its way into the group of 17 Dr. Quartz reprints in New Nick Carter Weekly, #779 through 795.

Another important tale by Dey was Nick Carter Library #4, "One Against Twenty-one, or, The Ranch Robbery," for it introduced Chick, then a 14-year-old waif of Nevada, later the adopted son and first assistant of Nick. This wasn't reprinted in Magnet, either, as far as I know. To show how Dey liked to resurrect earlier characters, many years after this story of Chick was published, in New Nick Carter Weekly #467, "The Man from Nevada," dated Dec. 9, 1905, Nick has a visitor who is obviously a cowboy, and, asking if he is Nick Carter, the visitor goes on, "The Nick Carter that I mean is the chap who went out to Nevada somewhere about ten years ago, all alone and unaided, made an outfit of twenty-one outlaws look like a bunch of coyotes; and then when he had done that, he brought back East with him a little chap that we thought a heap of. The little chap went by the name of Chick, out there. Now, mister, are you that hustler?"

"I think you have called at the right address," replied Nick. "Chick is here with me; has been, in fact, ever since I brought him back with me from Nevada."

"So he's a detective, too, heh?"

"Yes, Buck; and a rattling good one. Shall I call him? Would you like to see him?"

This "Man from Nevada" tale and



two others from Nick Carter Weekly were reprinted in New Magnet #486, "The Chain of Clues."

The first of several volumes of Nick Carter short stories in Magnet was #89, "The Detective's Pretty Neighbor." The title story was first printed in the New York Weekly, September 1, 1894; there were ten stories in the book, all of them reprinted from the hundred or so Nick Carter shorts published during a period of more than two years in the New York Weekly.

The next volume of shorts was Magnet #93, "Adventures of Harrison Keith, Detective." Keith, I believe, was the creation of Frederick W. Davis. And Dey never wrote any Harrison Keith stories. It may be that some of the 12 shorts in #93 were rewrites from that stockpile of New York Weekly shorts, for there is some evidence that several were first printed elsewhere. On the other hand, all could have been written by Fred Davis around the character of Keith.

Although #89 was the first volume of Nick Carter shorts, there had been an earlier volume of Sherlock Holmes #72, "Sherlock Holmes Detective Stories" by A. Conan Doyle. The next volume of Nick Carter shorts was Magnet #97, "The Puzzle of Five Pistols" (N. C. Lib. #131, "The Path of a Bullet") and two other short tales from N. C. Library. In fact, most of these volumes of Nick Carter shorts were made up of 3 reprints from N. C. Library, taking their titles from one of the original short tales: Magnet #101, 105, 111, 117, 123, 129, 135, 196, 201, 207, 213, 220. Additional short story volumes about other detectives were "The Detective Tales of Edgar Allen Poe" (#115), "Fifteen Detective Stories by Police Captains of New York" (#152), and 4 vols. about Felix Boyd, private detective, by Scott Campbell (Fred Davis), New Magnet #591, 603, 615, 627. These were undoubtedly reprints from one of Street & Smith's pulp magazines.

So it went on, the early issues of

Magnet being fed reprints from New York Weekly, Nick Carter Library and Nick Carter Weekly. But stories of Nick and his assistants were not the only ones being printed. Not only were the Nick Carters by Dey but also by Eugene T. Sawyer and Fred Davis. There were stories by various authors about other detectives, too, even French detective stories by French authors (not in French, of course). In the beginning nearly every other story was a Nick Carter, then it became every third one for a time in the late 500's and early 600's (when Harrison Keith was contending with Nick), back again to a N. C. every other week, and the Magnet Library was running in this order when, with #697, "Pauline—A Mystery" (a reprint of New Nick Carter Weekly #622, 623, 624 by Dey), everything but Carter tales were dropped.

Those stories about other detectives alternating with the exploits of Carter & Co. — what were they like? Good, mostly, and because the authors themselves were mainly the same ones writing Nick Carters—Fred Dey under the names of "Marmaduke Dey" and "William G. Forbes" (Forbes being a name that bothered me as a Nick Carter author I couldn't place—and so he was, as Ralph Adimari pointed out to me, none other than the top-flight Dey himself), and Fred Davis using the pseudonym "Scott Campbell," and Harlan P. Halsey (creator of "Old Sleuth" for Publisher George Munro) under the pseudonym "Judson R. Taylor."

Sometime ago Mr. Adimari wrote me a couple of very interesting letters about some of these early Magnets. "William G. Forbes" was the author of a series of Ben Bradley stories, one of which was titled "Into the Jaws of Death, or, Ben Bradley's League With Nick Carter." "It may be," wrote Adimari, "that Ben Bradley had adventures with Carter other than in this one in question." (Just as Nick appeared in Old Broadbrim Weekly three times, #46, 47, 48).

Adimari came across another copy



of a Ben Bradley detective story in the New York Public Library. He says, "It was called 'Fighting an Unknown Power, or, Ben Bradley and the Hindu' by William G. Forbes, #469 Magnet Library, issued Nov. 7, 1906. Since I never found any W. G. F. in literature, I concluded it was a nom-de-plume and that, from the contents of this story, the Ben Bradley series was written by Fred Dey. I must, however, before making this statement official, compare yearly stories such as 1906 'Nick Carter' Dey stories with the 1906-07 Ben Bradley stories. Dey was that kind of writer. He had zest for the chase, so to speak. On page 189 is illuminating evidence of Dey's hand:

"He (Ben B.) drew a picklock from his pocket. This useful little instrument, invented by Nick Carter, is a very handy tool for a detective to have around on occasions.' The writer then concludes that Ben was a thoro locksmith. If this isn't Dey then I don't know him. He was always writing in this manner in the Carter stories.

"The story does not have Nick as a character but it shows Dey's hand because no one but a Nick Carter fan or the creator of his character would have known what Carter would or would not have done. There were about 6 or 7 Ben Bradley stories published late 1906 and maybe 1907. They are all listed in the U. S. Catalog 1912 edition."

Adimari has this to say about an article in The Bookman, July 1929, by John R. Coryell's son: "In it he asserts that his father not only wrote the first Carter in New York Weekly but adds that later on, some years after Dey started the real and true Nick Carter, he, Coryell, wrote for the library. This is true because the copyright titles give him credit for source, but the U. S. Catalog 1928 gives him credit for all Nick Carters (Magnet Library)! Poor Dey is not even mentioned! Today in the Library of Congress cards the Magnet Library titles are listed in the main as possibly by F. Van R. Dey, spelled

out."

Mr. Adimari has his own very interesting opinion how the name "Nick Carter" came to be used. "In the May 1955 Roundup," he's speaking of an article of mine, "you say there is a question of doubt (by others) that Coryell invented Nick Carter. He did, but it was not meant to be any more than another detective. Thus in one way, he did NOT invent N. C. When the Nick Carter Library was started in 1891 it proves that Ormond Smith, the publisher, had found an author to write a series of stories about a detective that was to be in competition with Old Sleuth. Ormond Smith must have been sore over losing a lawsuit to George Munro over the use of the word 'sleuth'—in fact, in this victory George Munro won over Norman Munro, his brother, Beadle & Adams and Frank Tousey, and, I believe, J. S. Ogilvie, who at one time was connected with Street & Smith. Later, he was to become the official publisher of Old Sleuth.

"Finally (to start the new library), Ormond Smith and Fred Dey decided on Nick Carter as the name of the detective, a name already in use in New York Weekly and used by Coryell. They picked it (my opinion now) because there was a Cool Carter, detective, already in use by Norman Munro in his Old Cap Collier (Weekly or Library). Don't forget, Old Cap Collier was not the only detective in that library. There were others. The same with Old Sleuth, not all were Old Sleuths. And since Ormond Smith had been burned in one lawsuit, he must have decided that by the use of Nick Carter from New York Weekly he could tell Norman Munro's Cool Carter, my Carter came first, if N. M. might decide to sue.

(to be continued)

---

What have you in  
**Liberty Boys of '76**  
 for sale?  
 EDWARD INGRAHAM  
 402 Brentwood Road  
 Havertown, Pa.



## MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

220. Keith H. Thompson, 316 N. Geneva St., Ithaca, N. Y. (New Address)  
 245. William D. Owen, 60 East Main St., Washingtonville, N. Y. (New mem.)  
 96. Jack R. Schorr, 853 So. Lemon St., Anaheim, Calif. (New address)  
 246. Arthur B. Carter, 927 Mt. Hope St., No. Attleboro, Mass. (New mem.)  
 247. Henry L. Neubauer, 52-04 Redfield St., Douglaston, N. Y. (New mem.)  
 248. Herbert Prestwood, 114 Walnut St., Chattanooga 3, Tenn. (New mem.)  
 249. C. Solomon Wells, 22 Holman St., Attleboro, Mass.

Statement required by the Act of August 24, 1912 as amended by the Acts of Mar. 3, 1933 and July 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233) Showing the Ownership, Management and Circulation of  
 Dime Novel Round-Up

Published monthly at Lawrence, Kansas for the month of August 1960.

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher Edward T. LeBlanc,  
 87 School St., Fall River, Mass.  
 Editor, Edward T. LeBlanc,  
 87 School St., Fall River, Mass.  
 Managing Editor, Edward T. LeBlanc,  
 87 School St., Fall River, Mass.  
 Business Mgr., Edward T. LeBlanc,  
 87 School St., Fall River, Mass.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)

Edward T. LeBlanc,  
 87 School St., Fall River, Mass.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.)

None

Average number mailed each issue: 250.

Signed Edward T. LeBlanc  
 Editor

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14th day of September 1960.

(seal) C. H. Camille Whitehead  
 My commission expires May 12, 1962.

## BACK NUMBERS

of Reckless Ralph's Dime Novel Round-up Nos. 1 to 237 for sale.

Ralph F. Cummings  
 161 Pleasant St., So. Grafton, Mass.

## WANTED

by C. E. Douglas

402-28th St., Vienna, W. Va.

Beadles Dime Novels. Nos. 38, 43, 116  
 216, 170.

Beadles New Dime Novels. Nos. 501,  
 327, 399, 536, 613, 567.

Beadles Standard Lib of Romance 3.  
 Beadles Am. Library. 21.

Beadles Boys Books of Rom. & Adv.  
 No. 11, 12.

Beadles Dime Tales of Trad. & Rom.,  
 etc. No. 8, 9.

Log Cabin Library. 42, 292, 223.

Log Cabin Pocket Library. No. 11.

War Library. Nos. 103, 255, 392, 43.  
 184, 322, 178, 311.

Old Cap Collier. No. 337.

"Devil Anse" or, The Hatfield-McCoy  
 Outlaw. Pub. by Police Gazette  
 Young Kate; or, The Rescue. Harper's  
 1844.

Beall. The Pirate Spy.

Refugee Boys of '61

The Lady Lieutenant.

## AT \$1.50 EACH!

None Stamped! None Taped! Good  
 Shape! No Confetti! Money Back  
 Guarantee!

Liberty Boys of 76 Nos. 235 246 280  
 282 283 291 301 311 314 321 330 340  
 344 347 349 351 356 361 363 364 366  
 381 388 398 403 408 415 421 422 440

Pluck & Luck Nos. 201 223 345 364  
 443 454 476 528 583.

Wide Awake No. 150.

Any three of the above will be exchanged for one of the following:—  
 Liberty Boys Nos. 323 245.

I will pay \$1.00 plus postage for the loan of Liberty Boys of 76 No. 90.

D. S. LEARNARD  
 154 Belmont St., Weymouth 88, Mass.

## RARE OLD TIME NOVELS AT LOW PRICES

BEADLE'S N. Y. DIME LIBRARY: 16 22 24 39 57 58 60 71 74 98 99 141 145  
 147 148 150 159 160 163 200 218 221 223 224 226 232 236 241 246 247 251  
 253 255 257 261 264 265 268 271 275 277 291 293 296 401 303 305 308 315  
 325 326 328 333 336 337 338 343 348 364 368 369 373 375 377 393 407  
 418 419 421 424 425 428 430 461 470 524 525 530 533 546 567 581 587 600  
 621 650 652 657 825 854 893 916 928 930 959 983 995 1046 1055 1056 1065  
 1067 1069 1076 1079 1081 1093 1097 1102 35c to \$1.25 each.

BEADLE'S HALF DIME LIBRARY: 53 84 87 88 89 91 95 98 101 103 140 155  
 164 171 173 175 181 200 203 230 239 408 413 487 686 816 843 867 925 950  
 970 1020 1025 1110 1111 1115 1139 1140 1141 1145 1152 1153 1165.  
 35c to \$1.00 each.

WIDE AWAKE LIBRARY: 29 53 127 470 522 530 753 784 873 933 967 983  
 1069 1075 1107 1254 to 1260 1265 1266 1268 1269 1273 1277 1280 1285 1289  
 35c to \$1.25 each.

COMIC LIBRARY: 70 71 80 108 143 to 147 166 to 171 177 179 180 181 182  
 185 188 189 192. 50c to \$1.25 each.

(Many of the above are in very good condition. Most of the rest are good, some are only fair. Drop me a card, listing those in which you are interested, and I'll furnish description and price on each by return mail.)

SNAPS: 23 to 27 30 34 35 42 43 49 53 54 56 58 59 65 66 67. Very good condition with bright clean covers. No taping, stamping, repairing, clipped corners, etc. Each \$2.25.

PLUCK & LUCK: 80 82 83 86 95 97 98 112 125 127 131 134 135 136 138  
 142 148 150 153 154 Very good. Each \$1.50.

PLUCK & LUCK: 194 196 271 309 317 326 332 344 358 389 393 \$1.25

PLUCK & LUCK: 407 409 413 417 424 429 431 446 456 460 464 489 515 530  
 542 553. 75c to \$1.00 each.

FAME & FORTUNE: 24 59 95 109 133 147. Each \$1.00.

FAME & FORTUNE: 377 397 401 403 409 415 416 419 421 425 426 431 433  
 435 437 440 447 452 453 465 468 514 515 517 521. 75c

Work & Win: 374 472 474 549 558 573 615 618 628 640 680. Brave & Bold 356. Do & Dare 5. Three Chums 49 56 57. Wide Awake Weekly (firemen stories) 83 84 136. Young Rover 10 46 47 48 49 51. Motor Stories 2 11. All Around Weekly 12 48. Buffalo Bill Stories 241 410. Rough Rider Weekly 125 135. Red Raven 35. All in good to very good condition. 75c to \$1.25 each. Drop me a card for full details.

ADVENTURE SERIES (Westbrook) All James Boys stories by William Ward, in good, clean sound condition. Real collectors' items. 9 10 12 13 16 18 19 21 to 26 30 34 36 to 40 42 43. Also No. 8 (Rube Burrow). Each \$1.00.

Have lots of Merriwell Series, Adventure Library, Round the World Library, Buffalo Bill Border Stories, Great Western Library, Western Story, etc.

**J. P. GUINON**

**P. O. Box 214**

**Little Rock, Ark.**



## OLD STORY PAPERS, DIME NOVELS, ETC.

**ALGER SERIALS COMPLETE** in the following volumes of New York Weekly. Not bound. 52 numbers per volume:

Vol. 29 Only an Irish Boy. \$10.00.

Vol. 30 The Cash Boy. \$10.00.

Vol. 35 Dan, the Detective. \$9.00. (A few poor nos. Algers O.K.)

Vol. 38 and 39 The Train Boy. Grit. The Errand Boy. (Papers are average condition, some good, some fair). The lot, \$18.00.

Vol. 40 Frank and Fearless. (Average condition). \$9.00.

Vol. 44 #12 to 42 (Not a complete volume). A Boy's Fortune. Papers, poor to average. \$4.00.

Vol. 44 A Boys Fortune. Complete volume, good condition. \$10.00.

New York Weekly. 50 different numbers, fair, \$5.00. Have fun!

Work and Win #733 to 932 (200 consecutive numbers). All very good to fine, mostly new and uncut. \$100.00. (#733 to 832, \$60.00).

Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper. Volumes 1 and 2 bound in one volume. 51 numbers. (Includes first number). \$15.00.

Old story papers. Good condition. 5 for \$1.00—New York Weekly, New York Ledger, Chimney Corner, Fireside Companion, Western World, Family Story Paper, Saturday Night. All one kind, or assort as you wish.

Family Herald (English) #1654 to 2332 bound in 18 volumes, 676 numbers (3 numbers missing). \$50.00.

Pluck and Luck #6 to 11, good to fine, \$17.00. #2, 3 and 4. Fair to average, \$7.50 for the three.

Boys' Star Library (Jack Wright novels) #246 257 271 276 277 283 296. \$5.00 each. Adventure novels in Boys' Star #117, 218, 264, 270. \$2.50 each. Flying Man novels, #174, 187. \$15.00.

New York Boys Weekly (Tousey story paper) \$1.25 each.

Boys of the World (Street & Smith story paper) #1 to 36 in one bound volume, \$27.50.

Old Cap Collier #1 (5c edition). Good, a little yellowed. \$5.00.

Old Cap Collier, large size 10c edition, \$2.00 to \$3.00 each.

Nick Carter Weekly, small size between #4 and 227. Mostly good to fine. 90 different numbers, \$175.00.

Puck's Library (Cartoon, humor, color plates) 1887 up. 96 different numbers, including #1 to 50 consecutive, \$50.00. Each number specializes on one subject. 47 different, \$25.00.

Nugget Library #78, 84, 139. \$1.50 each.

New York Detective Library, a lot at \$2.00 each. Old King Brady, James Boys novels, at \$3.00 to \$5.00 each.

Wayfarer's Library (London) 35c each.

"The Wandering Jew," by Eugene Sue, in 3 cloth volumes, with 18 illustrations. The set, #2.50.

Postpaid.

Subject to prior sale.

**RALPH P. SMITH**

**Box 985**

**Lawrence, Mass.**